

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment

Request; Consumer Price Index Housing Survey

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) sponsored information collection request (ICR) titled, "Consumer Price Index Housing Survey," to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval for continued use in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

DATES: Submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation; including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden may be obtained from the RegInfo.gov Web site,

http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, on the day following publication of this notice or by contacting Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or sending an email to DOL PRA PUBLIC@dol.gov.

Submit comments about this request to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for DOL-BLS, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503, Fax: 202-395-6881 (this is not a toll-free number), email: OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Michel Smyth by telephone at 202-693-4129 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

AUTHORITY: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services. Each month, BLS data collectors visit or call thousands of retail stores, service establishments, rental units, and doctors' offices all over the United States to obtain information on the prices of the thousands of items used to track and measure price changes in the CPI. The collection of price data from rental units is essential for the timely and accurate calculation of the shelter component of the CPI. The CPI is then widely used as a measure of inflation, indicator of the effectiveness of government economic policy, deflator for other economic series and as a means of adjusting dollar values.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless it is approved by the OMB under the PRA and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a valid Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6. The DOL obtains OMB approval for this information collection under Control Number 1220-0163. The current approval is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2012; however, it should be noted that existing information collection requirements submitted

to the OMB receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review. For

additional information, see the related notice published in the Federal Register on June

18, 2012 (77 FR 36296).

Interested parties are encouraged to send comments to the OMB, Office of

Information and Regulatory Affairs at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section

within 30 days of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. In order to help

ensure appropriate consideration, comments should mention OMB Control Number

1220-0163. The OMB is particularly interested in comments that:

Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for

the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information

will have practical utility;

Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the

proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and

assumptions used;

Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

and

Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to

respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or

other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g.,

permitting electronic submission of responses.

Agency: DOL-BLS.

<u>Title of Collection:</u> Consumer Price Index Housing Survey.

OMB Control Number: 1220-0163.

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Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

<u>Total Estimated Number of Responses:</u> 154,937.

Total Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 14,674.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: \$0.

Dated: September 17, 2012.

Michel Smyth,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

BILLING CODE: 4510—24—P

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